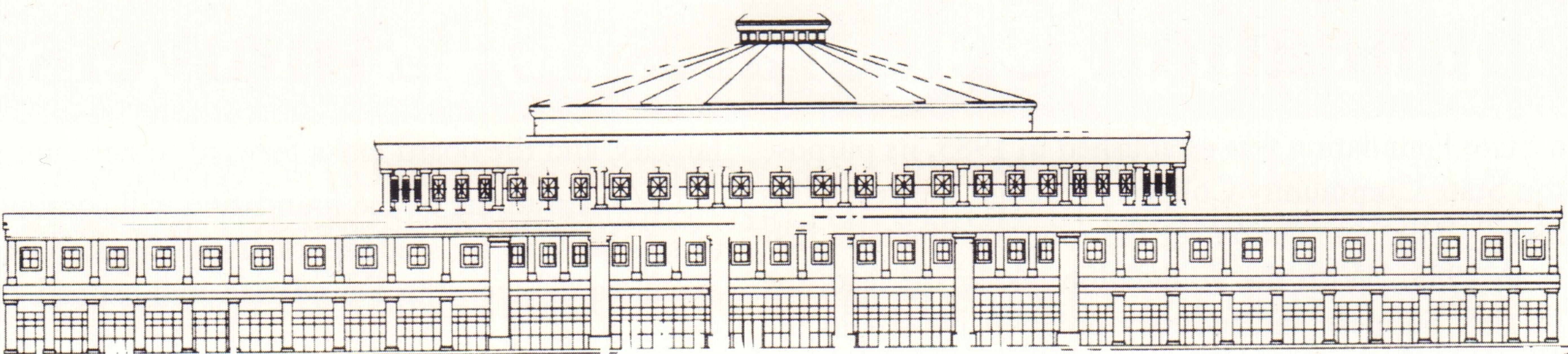




THE SHELTON STATEMENT

Spring-Summer 2000

A Publication of Shelton State Community College

Volume 8 No. 1

AUGUST 2000

The SHELTON STATEMENT is published by the Office of Public Relations and Alumni Affairs - Shelton State Community College
9500 Old Greensboro Road • Tuscaloosa, AL 35405 • (205) 391-2221 or (205) 391-2252

Tom Umphrey - A Remarkable Career

This fall Shelton State Community College will have a new president. Dr. Thomas E. Umphrey, the college's president since December 1988, will retire, effective September 1. Umphrey is one of 27 Shelton State employees who has opted for a retirement incentive offered two-year college employees by the state.

Much has happened at the college and to Umphrey since he first joined the college in 1979. Over the past years, Shelton State moved from a vocational/technical school to a comprehensive community college, one of the largest in the state.

Early co-workers describe Shelton's president as a fun-loving, happy young man when he moved to Tuscaloosa from Jefferson State Community College in Birmingham with his wife and three small children in the late 1970's. "He had a lot of energy. Everyone loved Tom and Tom loved everyone."

In his first position as Shelton's Dean of Special Programs, Umphrey coordinated recruiting, marketing, and grants. His first office was a "cubby hole" located on Shelton's old Skyland Campus, a prefab building that was once Gaylord's Discount Department Store. In those days faculty, staff, and students knew Umphrey's door was always open to them. They called him by his given name, "Tom," rather than by the title of "Dean Umphrey." Even today, Umphrey does not work under formality. He carries no business cards and prefers talking to people in person rather than over the Internet.

Over the next few years, Shelton experienced tremendous growth. The first year enrollment at the college almost doubled. Today Umphrey sees his greatest accomplishment as one of helping students. People who worked with Umphrey during those years saw from the beginning that he had a way of communicating with students. He could talk to them on a one-on-one basis. Students always found him to be their friend.

During those years, Umphrey dreamed of the day Shelton State would have a new campus. Soon after being named president of the college, Umphrey knew his dream would become a reality.

"Right after the selection of president, we had a meeting with local leaders to talk about the future of the college," Umphrey said. "We discussed a lot of options. Could



Tom Umphrey - A Remarkable Career

we add to the 15th Street Campus? Where would we get the funds to build this new school? The people at that meeting were overwhelmingly in favor of a new campus. When they said they would help us, I knew it would happen," Umphrey said.

After determining there was not enough land to build on to the 15th Street Campus, Umphrey began looking at other options. Growth was projected in south Tuscaloosa County and in 1991, with the help of community leaders, Shelton bought 170 acres which now is home to Shelton's Martin Campus.

The next few years were spent planning the campus design and raising the necessary money. Ground was broken in October 1994, and the first half of the new facility was completed in June 1996. In August 1997 the second half of the campus was completed, and in October, the college held the official dedication. Umphrey's legacy of a new college campus was established.

Also in 1993 Shelton and C.A. Fredd State Technical College merged forming a new institution, Shelton State Community College. Dr. Umphrey was named president of the new institution. Of all the mergers in the state, this one has been the most successful.

Recognition poured in for Umphrey over the next few years. He was named national "Communicator of the Year" by the National Council of Marketing and Public Relations in 1995. In 1997 he received the Eileen Tosney Award and the Distinguished Service Award by the American Association of University Administrators.

There have been disappointments along the way for Shelton's president. Umphrey took his responsibility and commitment to the college very seriously. Sometimes it was hard for college employees to move from thinking of Umphrey as "Tom, their buddy," to "Dr. Umphrey, their president."

Umphrey is upbeat about the future of Shelton State Community College. "This college can be anything it wants to be. It has unlimited potential. What Shelton needs now is someone to take it to the next step. We need distance education - new technology, web sites, the Internet. We need a better grasp of community needs in terms of labor," Umphrey says.

(Continued on page 2)

Shelton Celebrates Graduation

Over 400 students received degrees from Shelton State Community College this year. Sandra Hall Ray, Shelton State's representative on the Alabama State Board of Education, was the keynote speaker.

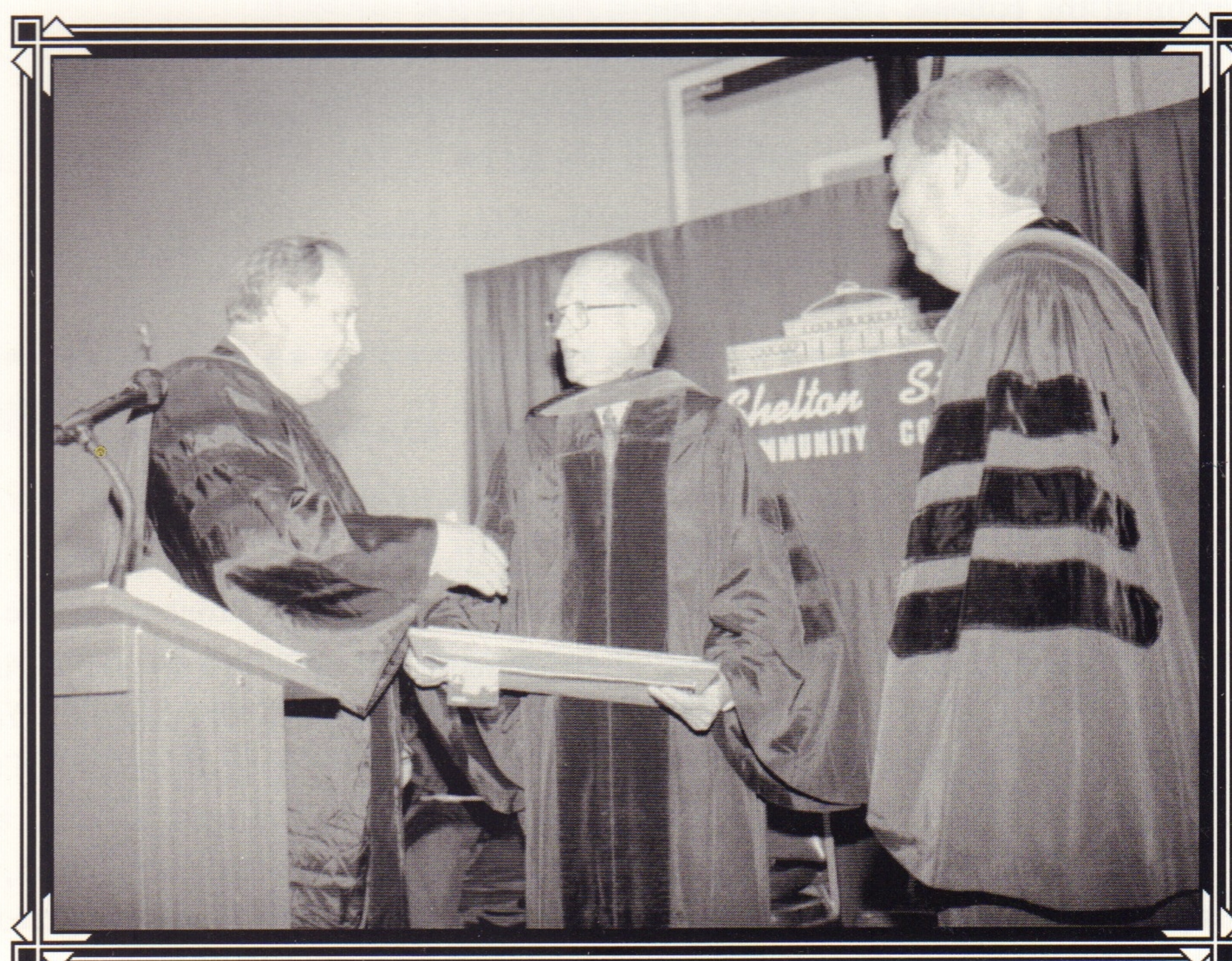
Fred Posey of Buffalo Rock/Pepsi received an honorary degree from the college during graduation. "Posey has worked to improve education in the state of Alabama and has been a loyal supporter of Shelton State Community College," said Shelton President Tom Umphrey.

Posey joined Buffalo Rock company in 1965. As part of his job responsibilities with Buffalo Rock/Pepsi, Posey works with community and corporate special events and

INSIDE...

Foundation Celebrates 15th Anniversary	2
Alumni Assoc. Sets Record Membership	2
College Initiates New Registration System	2
Shelton State Goes Global	2
Honor Students Announced	3
Shelton Students Receive All-USA Academic Team Honors	3
Shelton News	3
Sandra Ray Representative on State Board of Education	4

handles government and customer relations. For 12 years he worked with Coach Paul Bryant at the University of Alabama as athletic trainer where he helped prevent and treat sports-related injuries. Before joining the University, he served as athletic trainer for the Denver Broncos and the Chicago White Sox. In 1997 he was inducted into the Alabama Athletic Trainer Hall of Fame.



President Umphrey congratulates Posey on receiving honorary degree. Looking on is Dr. Rick Rogers, assistant to the president.

Foundation Celebrates 15th Anniversary

When the Shelton State Foundation was established in 1985, its purpose was to support Shelton State Community College. Through the years, this mission has not changed. The Foundation set the tone for Shelton's first fundraising capability in 1985. With the Foundation taking the lead, the college established its first business and industry program housed in the Morrison Industrial Training Center located on the college's old 15th Street Campus.

The Shelton State Foundation established the first endowed scholarships. More recently, the Foundation focused its efforts on helping the college in the construction of the new campus.

In 1993, Shelton merged with C.A. Fredd State Technical College. During the merger, the Shelton foundation and the Fredd foundation also merged their boards to form a new foundation, the Shelton State Community College Foundation.

Today, the Foundation looks forward to the future and its role of supporting Shelton State. Jackie Standridge assumed the office of presidency of the Shelton State Foundation during the Foundation's annual meeting in

January, and the board looks forward to new and exciting things.

The main thrust of the foundation will continue to be the establishment of scholarships for students to attend Shelton. According to Rick Rogers, executive director, the Foundation will expand these efforts over the next few years as more money is needed to help students get the training and education.

This year the Foundation's main fundraising project will be the annual Barbecue Bash which will be held September 21. Proceeds from the Bash will go toward the Foundation's scholarship fund and other activities. This spring the Shelton State Foundation awarded \$30,000 in scholarships raised through private funds.

Other officers for the Shelton State Foundation this year include Ashley Ferry, First Vice President; Lew Drummond, Second Vice President; Liz Abrasley, Third Vice President; and Paul Ray, Secretary/Treasurer. Committee chairs for the year are Standridge, Executive; Claude Burns, Finance; Verta Barr Meherg, Nominating; Abrasley, Planning/Fundraising, and Drummond and Greg Kosloff, Scholarship.

Alumni Association Sets Record Membership

Last summer members of the Shelton State Alumni Council, the organization that serves as the executive committee for the Alumni Association, set a goal of 100 members for the 1999-2000 membership campaign. "This seemed like a very difficult target to reach at the time," said Lucy Kubiszyn, director of the association. The Alumni Association has only been in existence for five years and membership had ranged from 40 - 50 active and corporate members. But, according to Kubiszyn, "everyone worked really hard this year. Our membership campaign was well organized. We had a wonderful fall party at the University Club, and we received great support from the Shelton administration."

"In December we announced we had topped our goal with 109 members. We were all elated. It has been a really great year for everyone," Kubiszyn said.

Some activities this year besides the membership party included two fund raising projects. Alumni council members sold concessions at a Buccaneer

basketball game during the college's homecoming activities. Proceeds went to the Alumni Scholarship Fund. The Alumni Association "Letters from Santa" project netted money to help a needy family at Christmas.

Other activities this year included a Christmas party and the organization's annual fun night, "Wings and Waterfalls," held in March. Landscape instructor Dennis Crim talked about the construction of ponds, waterfalls, and other water gardens while alumni members feasted on wings and other good food. The Alumni Association hosted its Annual Meeting in April, and college personnel joined former students in celebrating the end of a great year.

Officers for the association this year are president, Pat Headrick; president elect, David Hill; secretary, Lisa Matherson; and treasurer, Ronda Shirley. For additional information on the Shelton State Alumni Association, contact the Alumni Office, (205) 391-2221 or 391-2252.

College Initiates New Registration System

This summer Shelton began a new telephone registration system, the first step in upgrading the college's registration system. Voice response automated telephone registration began during Summer registration, and with this new system, students may register anytime between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m.

"We're excited that this new system offers students a greater opportunity to register. Besides registering over the telephone, students using this new system may pay by credit card or receive semester grades over the telephone. The only requirement is that students must be in our system. If a student has never attended the college, they must fill out an application form before registering over the new system," said Diane Layton, college registrar.

Students may register by telephone for Fall semester through August 15 by calling (205) 391-2900. On August 16 and 17, students may register in person at the college. Fall classes begin August 21.

For additional information, call the Admissions Office

(205) 391-2214

or the Registration Hot Line

(205) 391-2293

Tom Umphrey - A Remarkable Career *(Continued from page 1)*

Would he give advice to the next president, whomever he or she may be? "Absolutely not," Umphrey says. "They are on their own."

Sitting in his office looking at pictures, plaques and other mementos of the past 23 years, you find it hard to imagine the personal and professional changes this new life will bring Umphrey. His three children are now grown. Umphrey and his family moved this past year to their new home located on 40 acres outside McCalla, Alabama.

Although he admits to being contacted by entities outside education, Umphrey says he has no definite plans right now. Yet you know that future generations of students will benefit from the work and leadership of this one man. Shelton's new multimillion dollar campus is truly the "School that Tom Built."

SHELTON STATE GOES GLOBAL

In the past, community colleges were viewed as institutions serving only their immediate geographic area. For Shelton State Community College that area has grown to become global in scope.

This spring 107 students from 31 different countries enrolled in classes at Shelton State Community College. Their choice of courses varied much more than in years past. For a long time, most of the college's international students were enrolled in business or pre-engineering classes. Today these students are enrolled in almost every academic area.

Marie Winkler, a student from Germany, achieved a great deal while at the college. With a 4.0 grade point average at Shelton, she was selected one of the outstanding students at the college. She is a member of Phi Theta Kappa, national community college honorary, and will complete her education at a four-year college or university in the fall.

Thanks to the Tuscaloosa International Friends, this year Negda Leon received a \$250 scholarship to help complete her education at Shelton State. Leon completed Shelton's nursing program and graduated with a 3.6 grade point average.

Many wives from Mercedes Benz and JVC enjoy taking classes, such as music and art, at Shelton State. This summer 10 German families have their 14 children enrolled in Shelton's child development center. These families are employed by Mercedes Benz.



HONOR STUDENTS ANNOUNCED



Jessica Smith

JESSICA SMITH OF GORDO WAS RECENTLY HONORED BY SHELTON STATE. SMITH WAS NAMED THE RECIPIENT OF THE LEO SUMNER AWARD, SHELTON'S HIGHEST HONOR. SHE HAS SERVED AS PHI THETA KAPPA PRESIDENT, MISS SHELTON STATE AND IS ON THE NATIONAL DEAN'S LIST. SHE WAS ALSO NAMED THE OUTSTANDING MASS COMMUNICATION STUDENT, THE OUTSTANDING LITERATURE STUDENT, AND RECEIVED THE ACHIEVEMENT IN THEATRE ADMINISTRATION FOR THE COLLEGE. SHE IS THE DAUGHTER OF JERRY SMITH OF GORDO.

NORMANICOLE GREEN OF NORTHPORT WAS NAMED THE RECIPIENT OF THE JAMES B. ALLEN AWARD. GREEN IS VICE PRESIDENT OF SERVICE FOR PHI THETA KAPPA AND IS A SHELTON AMBASSADOR. SHE WAS NAMED TO THE DEAN'S LIST AND ATTENDED THE COLLEGE ON AN ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP. SHE WAS CHOSEN FOR WHO'S WHO AMONG STUDENTS IN AMERICAN JUNIOR COLLEGES.

KELLYLEIB WYATT OF TUSCALOOSA WAS NAMED THE RECIPIENT OF THE HAROLD I. JAMES AWARD BY SHELTON STATE. THIS AWARD RECOGNIZES THE OUTSTANDING TECHNICAL STUDENT AT THE COLLEGE. WYATT IS MAJORING IN OFFICE ADMINISTRATION AT SHELTON AND IS A MEMBER OF WHO'S WHO IN AMERICAN COMMUNITY COLLEGES.

TIFFANY PATE WAS RECENTLY RECOGNIZED BY SHELTON FOR HER ACHIEVEMENTS AT THE COLLEGE DURING HER FRESHMAN YEAR. PATE WAS NAMED THE OUTSTANDING FRESHMAN DURING THE HONORS NIGHT CEREMONY. SHE IS VICE PRESIDENT FOR SCHOLARSHIP FOR PHI THETA KAPPA AND WAS SELECTED THE OUTSTANDING SHELTON STATE AMBASSADOR. SHE ATTENDS THE COLLEGE ON AN ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP. SHE IS THE DAUGHTER OF PAM AND GREG PATE OF BOAZ, ALABAMA.

Shelton Students Receive All-USA Academic Team Honors

Two Shelton State students, Kim Cockrell and Jennifer McDuff, represented the college in this year's 1999-2000 ALL-USA ACADEMIC TEAM competition. Each two-year college in the state nominated two students.



Kim Cockrell

Cockrell was named to the Third Team of the All-USA Academic Team. She became the most recent in a growing number of former Shelton State students selected for this prestigious honor. Sponsored by USA TODAY, Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society and the American Association of Community Colleges, this competition focuses on quality programming and emphasis on academic excellence provided by the two-year colleges in the United States.

Cockrell was one of 23 students selected from over 1400 applications. Selection was based on leadership skills, academic achievement, and community service involvement.

Cockrell is the fourth Shelton student to be named to the All-USA Academic Team over the past five years. Jackie Fazeli was named to the Second team in 1995 followed by Meredith Mettee and Kevin Windham in 1997. Mettee was named to the second team and Windham to the third.

While at Shelton State, Cockrell maintained a 4.0 grade point average and was president of the Student Government Association. She was a recipient of the Hope Academic Scholarship. She was also named 1999 Homecoming Queen at the college and will attend the University of Alabama next year on an academic scholarship.

McDuff is a member of Phi Theta Kappa and attended the Phi Theta Kappa Regional Honors Institute in 1998 and in 1999. She graduated with a 3.96 grade point average at the college and was named to the National Dean's List in 1998. She was a member of the college's Scholar's Bowl Team, the Shelton Singers, and the Bach to Rock Show Choir.



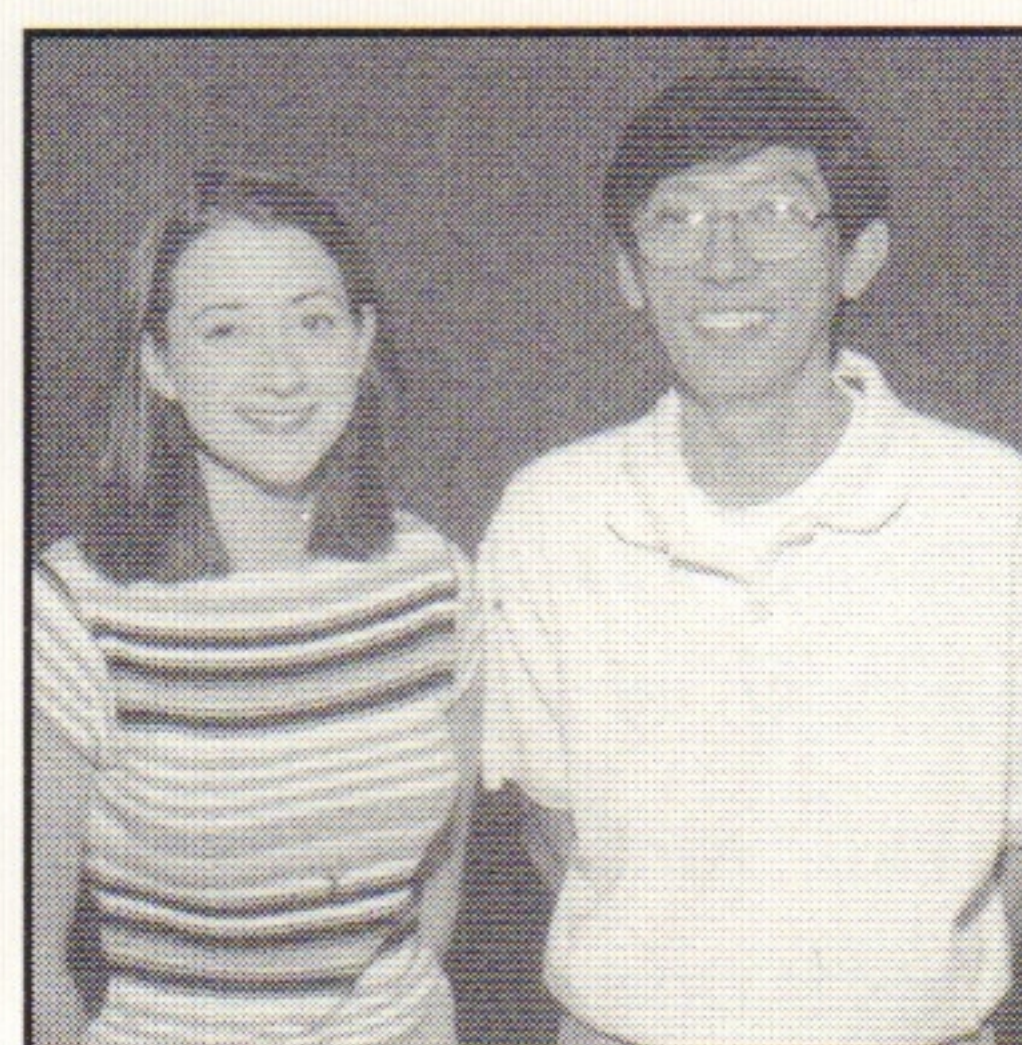
SHELTON NEWS

CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY

The construction technology program, on the C.A. Fredd Campus, is an example of Shelton's goal to provide quality education experiences that serve the needs of students and the community. Under the leadership of David Sanders, the program established partnerships with Habitat for Humanity and Christmas in April to improve housing conditions for needy and disabled families. These projects became "learning labs" for developing skills and a sense of community which resulted in the program receiving esteemed service awards from these organizations.

STUDENTS PLACE IN CHANCELLOR'S AWARDS ART EXHIBIT

The Alabama College Association sponsors an annual art exhibit which is a competition open to students and faculty from Alabama's two year colleges and technical schools. Slides of the art work, as entries, are sent to Montgomery for judging and selection. This year there were more than 200 entries in the students' categories.



Angela Evans
Apinan Kanyalak

In each category, a first, second and third place award was made. Categories included painting, sculpture, drawing and photography. Shelton State College had several entries in the photography section, and two of the photographs were winners.

Angela (Angie) Evans was named the second place winner, and **Apinan (Add) Kanyalak's** entry received third.

Angie is from Gordo and is an art major at Shelton. She will transfer to the University of Alabama this fall to complete her degree.

"Add" is from Thailand. He is also studying art at Shelton State and works as an assistant in the photography lab. He plans to attend the University next year.

BLACKSHEAR NAMED TOP JUNIOR COLLEGE INSTRUCTOR IN ALABAMA TWO-YEAR COLLEGE SYSTEM

Glinda Blackshear, music instructor and director of the Shelton Singers, has been named Junior College Faculty Member of the Year for Alabama during the recent Chancellor's Awards ceremony.



Glinda Blackshear

Blackshear was named Music Educator of The Year by the Arts Council of Tuscaloosa in 1994 and received the Druid Arts Award in 1987 for founding and directing the University of Alabama Jazz Vocal Ensemble.

For the Alabama Choral Directors Association, she serves as chair for repertoire and standards. She also chairs the Alabama Federation of Music Clubs Auditions and often judges the Alabama Vocal Association and Alabama Private School Association competitions.

As an Alabama Artist with the American Federation of Music Clubs, Blackshear often performs in recitals across the state. Her voice students are winners in competitions and pageants, and the Shelton Singers under her direction have consistently been rated superior. She is married to Alan Blackshear who directs the Shelton State Jazz Ensemble.

SANDRA RAY – SHELTON'S REPRESENTATIVE ON THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

E“For a long time, the two year institutions were more or less ‘stepchildren’ of higher education. Today, I think community colleges are considered a legitimate part of the education plan in the state.” — Sandra Hall Ray, Alabama State Board of Education

“Change” is a word Sandra Ray knows well. When Ray first ran for the Alabama State Board of Education in 1994, she and Martin Ray had recently married, combining both families, and Ray had just gone in business with her father to form Hall-Ray Realty. Today, the Rays have seven grandchildren and like all grandparents, they find their children and grandchildren to be the most important things in their lives.

Family additions are not the only changes in Ray's life over the past six years. Currently, she is completing her second term on the State Board of Education, and Hall-Ray Realty is now firmly established. Sandra and Martin completed restoration this past year of one of Tuscaloosa's oldest and most interesting homes. The house is so large that Ray's parents, Dr. and Mrs. Revis Hall, live in the upstairs apartment which, according to Ray, makes for an interesting generational mix.

This summer finds Ray running for reelection to the state board. The board in 1998 moved to elect its members to staggered terms of office. Half the board during the last election ran for four-year terms and the other half ran for two-year terms. Board members drew for their places. With the luck of the draw, Ray drew a two-year term and is now looking forward to a new election campaign.

“Education has always been my main interest. I know that's why I wanted to serve on the Alabama State Board of Education. Looking back on the accomplishments over these past years, I feel we, in Alabama, are making great strides and moving in the right direction,” she said.

“Although it has not yet reached total fruition, dual enrollment between the high schools and two-year colleges could be the board's greatest accomplishment these past several years. I am proud of the relationship between the K-12 schools and the two-year college system. The problems they face are often similar. Both serve a broad range of students, and many of their students have special needs. The problem is we have not used dual enrollment yet the way we should.

“I've also learned a lot. I think the state board and the Alabama Commission on Higher Education have developed a greater respect for one another over the past few years,” she said.

Ray remains committed to raising the standards of education in Alabama. Discussing the high school exit exam and its effect on education in the state, she says she believes state school superintendent Ed Richardson and Fred Gainous, chancellor of the two-year col-

lege system, must find a way for students not passing the exam to get the skills they need to successfully enter the job market.

“We must connect more. We're putting things in place now at the state level that will help students, such as the new math-science initiative to train teachers. One major problem is we must find a way to help those students who do not pass the exit exam. Even if we find a way for them to enter a community college, they will not be eligible for financial aid in the system. We're going to have to look very hard at some different avenues. One might be that we will work closer with the state GED program,” she said.

“My hope for Alabama is that a leader will emerge who can bring all the educational entities together. Whoever this person may be, they must be strong enough to reapportion education in the state. There is not enough money, but I believe that with the right leadership we can bring education to the desired level,” she said.

Ray talks frankly about the role of two-year colleges. “For a long time, the two-year institutions were more or less ‘stepchildren’ of higher education. Today, I think community colleges are considered a legitimate part of the education plan in the state. There is an acknowledgment between four-year colleges and universities that community colleges serve a purpose. Yet, the two-year schools must work together. Now that we are legitimate, it is necessary for these schools to act like it. We must deal with our fellow institutions and colleges on a higher plane,” she said.

“To meet the demands for a trained workforce, there are some things we must do. In high school and elementary education, schools do not teach students about job availability. High school counselors are sometimes part of the problem. Counselors are trained in academics and not technology. Everyone thinks their child must ‘go to college.’ Yet, the future of the state lies in technical education.

“Perhaps we aren't marketing technical education in the state as we should. The business community could help more too. They must take an active role. They could help provide the equipment the schools need. This is an example of where dual enrollment could help,” she said.

“I think overall you will see more cooperation among all areas of education, K-12, community colleges, and four-year institutions. To reach our goals, we must all work together in the future,” Ray says.



Sandra Ray

* It is the official policy of the Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education, including all Postsecondary institutions under the control of the State Board of Education, that no person in Alabama shall, on the grounds of race, color, disability, sex, religion, creed, national origin or age, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of or shall be subjected to discrimination under any program, activity or employment.

THE SHELTON STATEMENT

Shelton State Community College
9500 Old Greensboro Road
Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35405

Nonprofit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Tuscaloosa, AL
Permit No.
293